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○ ISSUE 30 | ○ VOLUME 6

Community *notes*

Howard County Closings for Presidents' Day

Howard County Government offices, courts, senior centers and the animal shelter will be closed in observance of Presidents' Day on Monday, February 15. However, regular trash, recycling and food scrap services will be in effect and the Alpha Ridge Landfill will be open. While county parks, community centers and facilities will be open, the Robinson Nature Center will be closed. In addition, County historic sites are all closed for the season. The Regional Transportation Agency (RTA) will operate on a regular weekday schedule; for more information on RTA, call 1-800-270-9553 or visit www.transitrt.com. All parking regulations and fees will be in effect.

The 9-1-1 Center, Police and Fire departments remain staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For emergencies, call 9-1-1; for non-emergencies, call 410-313-2200.

County offices will re-open at regular business hours on Tuesday, February 16.

CLOSED on Monday, February 15

County Government Offices
Courts
Animal Shelter
Senior Centers
Robinson Nature Center
Historic Sites

OPEN on Monday, February 15

Alpha Ridge Landfill
All trash, recycling and food scrap services
County Parks
Community Centers
RTA

Greeting

February, a short month with great holidays –
Happy Valentine's Day!

Maury Kay

Fall in Love with Love

Candlelight Concert Society and the Howard County Library System will present a **Valentine's Concert: "Songs of Love"** at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, February 11, at Miller Branch Library.

Top Peabody Conservatory vocalists Jessica Moss and John Noh will perform a musical celebration of love featuring operatic arias and musical theater duets.

Soprano Jessica Moss was a Grand Prize Finalist in the 2015 PepsiCo National Young Artist Competition, winning the opportunity to perform with the Charleston Symphony



Orchestra. Tenor John Chong Yoon Noh is noted for his Bel Canto style of singing. Mr. Noh was the recipient of the Encouragement Award at the 2015 Metropolitan Opera National Council District Auditions in Washington, D.C. The soloists will be accompanied by Eileen Cornett,

director of the graduate Vocal Accompanying Program in Collaborative Piano at Peabody Conservatory and principal faculty coach for Peabody's Opera Department.

The one-hour performance will be followed by a "meet and greet" reception with light refreshments and ticket giveaways.

Admission is free but registration strongly recommended. Visit the [website](http://www.candlelightconcertsociety.org) to register today!

Teen Anxiety: How to Recognize, Communicate, & Help Your Teen

Adolescence is a stressful time filled with academic, community, and social pressures. Stress tops the list of concerns of most teenagers today. Teens that have parental support during stressful times are more likely to navigate daily struggles successfully. This workshop will discuss how to recognize anxiety, offer ideas to help you support your child, communicate with your teen about their symptoms, and ensure you don't perpetuate anxious feelings to make them worse.



Who Should Attend: Parents and Guardians Only
When: Wednesday, February 17, 6:30 - 8:00pm
Where: Ellicott City 50+ Fitness Center Classroom (9411 Frederick Road, Ellicott City)
Admission: \$8/person; Space is limited; pre-registration is required. Register [online](#) or by phone at 410-313-1440.

Excite Columbia Returns

Columbia Association's (CA) citizens' academy, Excite Columbia, will be returning for its spring 2016 session. The six-week program will be held on Tuesdays beginning on March 1 and concluding on April 5. Classes are held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at CA Headquarters, 6310 Hillside Court.

Since 2013, Excite Columbia has educated and informed residents with an in-depth view of how CA operates and serves the community through its many departments and programs. The citizens' academy also provides a forum for CA and community members to interact and engage with one another. Each week, expert speakers will present information and answer questions on a variety of topics.

The schedule for the spring 2016 session is:

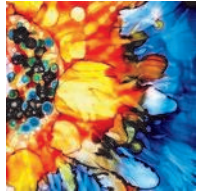
- March 1 - My Columbia Association: presentation from CA President/CEO Milton W. Matthews and a history of Columbia.
- March 8 - Community Vision: CA's Community Services Department and CA's governance.
- March 15 - Fiscal Responsibility: CA's annual charge and budget.
- March 22 - Fitness and Sustainability: CA's recreation facilities, services and programs, as well as CA's sustainability efforts.
- March 29 - Quality of Life: CA's Open Space Management Department and CA's watershed management efforts.
- April 5 - Graduation: program finale and wrap-up.

Excite Columbia is open to anyone 18 or older interested in learning more about CA. Registration for the program is required, as there is limited seating. To register, please visit ColumbiaAssociation.org/Excite. For more information, please contact Erin McPhail at Communications@ColumbiaAssociation.org or 410-423-1891.

Two-Person Exhibit at the Bernice Kish Gallery

The Bernice Kish Gallery at Slayton House is pleased to announce a two-person exhibit. Yolanda Koh will exhibit her work in alcohol ink and watercolors, in an exhibit titled "Simple and Fun Discoveries" in the Lobby Gallery and David Pumplin will exhibit his photography, in an exhibit titled "Off My Wall: Favorite images from near and far" in the Bill White Room Gallery. These exhibits will run from February 18 - March 26, 2016.

Yolanda Koh, of Columbia, Maryland, has exhibited her work in juried shows, including the Mid-Atlantic Watercolor Show at the Strathmore Hall in Rockville and the Laurel Art Guild's Annual Open Juried Art Exhibition. Ms. Koh is a Signature Member of the Baltimore Watercolor Society and the Potomac Valley Watercolorist. In addition Ms. Koh teaches workshops on Sumi-e, watercolor or alcohol ink on Yupo.



David Pumplin, of Columbia, Maryland, has exhibited in juried shows at the Washington School of Photography, Slayton House Gallery, the Howard County Arts Center and the Howard County Conservancy and in galleries at libraries in Columbia and the University of Maryland, Baltimore. He is a member of the former Maryland Art League.



There will be a reception on Sunday, February 21, 3-5pm. The public is invited to attend.

Training for Spiritual Care Volunteers

Howard County General Hospital will hold a 12-week spring training program starting Thursday, March 31, for volunteers who want to provide multi-faith spiritual care for patients and their families. The hospital's Chaplaincy Services Department is accepting applications for the program until Feb. 15.

The training program takes place Thursday evenings from 7 to 8:30 at the hospital and provides training in empathetic listening, spiritual support and acute grief counseling. Upon completion, all participants must volunteer at the hospital for a minimum of eight hours a month for one year.

The Chaplaincy Services Department provides spiritual care and emotional support to the patients, families and staff members of Howard County General Hospital regardless of religious affiliation.

There is no cost to attend the training program. For more information, call 410-740-7898.

Columbia Festival of the Arts Presents

Beyond the Winter Blues

Saturday, February 13, 2016 ■ 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

FILM: TWENTY FEET FROM STARDOM | Academy Award for Best Documentary Film

Monteabaro Recital Hall, Howard Community College
Featuring Bruce Springsteen, Stevie Wonder, Bette Midler, Sting, Sheryl Crow, Mick Jagger, Darlene Love and many more
Millions know their voices, but no one knows their names. In his compelling film “20 Feet From Stardom,” award-winning director Morgan Neville shines a spotlight on the untold true story of the backup singers behind some of the greatest musical legends of the 21st century. Triumphant and heartbreaking in equal measure, the film is both a tribute to the unsung voices who brought shape and style to popular music and a reflection on the conflicts, sacrifices and rewards of a career spent harmonizing with others. . [Tickets](#): \$11

Saturday, February 20, 2016 ■ 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

FILM: FRUITVALE STATION | Sundance Audience and Grand Jury Prize Winner

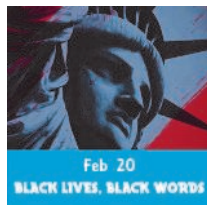
Monteabaro Recital Hall, Howard Community College
“Fruitvale Station” is the true story of 22-year-old Oscar Grant, who wakes up on the morning of December 31, 2008 and gets a head start on his resolutions. He strives to be a better son to his mother, whose birthday falls on New Year’s Eve, a better partner to his girlfriend, and a better father to their beautiful 4 year old daughter. The day ends with events on the Fruitvale Station train platform that shook the San Francisco Bay Area to its core. [Tickets](#): \$11



Saturday, February 20, 2016 ■ 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

BLACK LIVES, BLACK WORDS | Six Short Plays From a New Theatre Movement

Monteabaro Recital Hall, Howard Community College
Short works by up-and-coming black playwrights from Chicago and London, exploring the black diaspora of experiences in some of the largest multicultural cities in the world. This project gives voice to contemporary black writers from the US and the UK, asking them to explore the question “Do black lives matter today?” These plays not only discuss these important issues but also seek to provide solutions to the many problems that our community is struggling with. [Tickets](#): \$17



Friday, February 12, 2016 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

CONVERSATION WITH KWAME KWEI-ARMAH

Oliver’s Carriage House – Kittamaqundi Community Church

Kwame Kwei-Armah is a renowned playwright (his plays have been produced from London’s West End to Baltimore’s Center Stage), director, actor (he voiced Mtambo in *The Lorax*), theatre leader and artist with a razor-sharp intellect who possesses great warmth and vitality.

Audience members will not only listen as Todd Olson, Executive Director of CFA, interviews Kwei-Armah but they will be able to ask questions during the live interview about Center Stage and the American professional theatre.



Want to know more about Kwame? Check out the [You Tube video](#) of Kwame’s Baltimore.

Do you know anyone who is an aspiring theatre actor? Please pass this along and plan to enjoy an wonderful evening with two erudite gentlemen. [Tickets](#): \$11

Saturday, February 13, 2016 § 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

AN AFTERNOON OF JAZZ | Music of Trane, Miles & Mingus

Monteabaro Recital Hall, Howard Community College

Veteran jazz pianist, composer, arranger and musical director Vince di Mura performs with saxophonist/composer James Brandon Lewis. Vince di Mura is a veteran Jazz pianist, composer, arranger and musical director who has appeared on concert stages and theatres throughout North America, Canada, Europe and Latin America. Saxophonist/composer James Brandon Lewis has earned a reputation in the gospel, R&B, and jazz worlds.

[Tickets](#): \$17

Sunday, February 14, 2016 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

MONTEREY JAZZ FESTIVAL ON TOUR

Jim Rouse Theatre

Featuring Raul Midon, Ravi Coltrane, Nicholas Payton, Gerald Clayton, Joe Sanders and Gregory Hutchinson.

The longest consecutively running jazz festival in the world, the Monterey Jazz Festival celebrates their unique brand of jazz-with-a-purpose exuberance while expanding the boundaries of jazz presentation. This year’s lineup reflects Monterey’s “traditional-untraditionalist” attitude, and is a who’s-who of critically-acclaimed and Grammy-recognized top artists. [Tickets](#): \$39-\$55
This is a fun and funky way to spend time with your Valentine!



Journey 2016 Accepting Applications

The Women's Giving Circle of Howard County (WGC) is excited to announce the return of Journey, a summer program for Howard County girls. The Journey program is now accepting applications for **JOURNEY 2016, Sunday, July 10 - Saturday, July 16**. Journey is a residential summer camp for 25 young girls who will be in 7th, 8th or 9th grade in the fall of 2016. The Maryland Leadership Workshop, Inc. (MLW) will operate Journey on the gorgeous campus of Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland.



The week-long camp is filled with exciting activities including:

1. Workshops on empowerment and motivation, communication, decision-making skills, group dynamics, self-awareness, goal setting, and conflict resolution;
2. Small and large group projects for girls to apply and get feedback on their leadership and interpersonal skills;
3. One-on-one interactions between staff and girls to address specific areas of growth for the individual and identify an action plan for post-site implementation; and
4. Team-building activities that strengthen interpersonal skills and build lasting memories.

The cost of the camp is \$780 including a \$100 deposit with the application. Applications can be obtained at www.mlw.org. Limited financial assistance is available.

For more information, contact the MLW office at 301-444-8623 or <mailto:office@mlw.org>.

Vendors Wanted

Vendor applications are now being accepted for the annual Veterans Resource Fair, hosted by Howard County's Commission for Veterans and Military Families on Tuesday, April 5 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Miller Branch Library, 9421 Frederick Road in Ellicott City. While geared toward veterans living in Howard County, all veterans are invited to attend this free event.

If your organization or business provides services, resources or employment opportunities for veterans or military families and is interested in participating in this event, contact the Office of Military Affairs at 410-313-0821 or



CA Seeking Candidates for Board of Directors

Columbia Association will host two information sessions in February for those who are considering serving the Columbia community by seeking an opportunity to become a member of CA's Board of Directors.

The sessions will be held on Saturday, February 20 at 10:00 a.m. and Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m., both at CA Headquarters, 6310 Hillside Court, located off Stevens Forest Road near the county vehicle emissions inspection station.

Pursuing election may not be a simple decision, and CA recognizes that potential candidates may have questions or need information before filing the necessary forms. Potential candidates are encouraged to attend and learn more about Columbia Association, the role of its board members and how service on the board impacts the community. The goal of the sessions is to have a conversation with residents, including addressing their questions about this opportunity so they can make an informed decision about seeking a seat on CA's Board of Directors.

CA's Board of Directors has 11 members — one representative from each of Columbia's 10 villages plus CA's President/CEO. Representatives from the villages serve either a one- or two-year term, depending upon each village's bylaws. In late April 2016, six villages will hold elections for their representative to the CA Board of Directors: Harper's Choice, Hickory Ridge, Oakland Mills, Owen Brown, Town Center and Wilde Lake.

Columbia will celebrate its 50th birthday in 2017. The community has a storied history and will have an even brighter future. Service on CA's Board of Directors is a chance to become engaged in Columbia as it commemorates its first half-century of existence and moves forward to its next. Residents contemplating this role are highly encouraged and welcomed to attend one of the information sessions to learn how CA makes a difference.



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